(a) whether Government of Karnataka have forwarded to two ordinances to acquire the Maharaja's Palace at Bangalore and to create Trust for Rocrich Estate at Bangalore approving all the modifications suggested;

(b) if so, by when Government are going to approve the two ordinances; and

(c) if there is delay, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) The Bangalore Palace (Acquisition and Transfer) Ordinance, 1992 was closed as the clarifications sought from the Government of Karnataka were not received in time. The Roerich and Devikarani Roerich State (Acquisition and Transfer) Ordinance, 1995 was received in this Ministry on 5.1.1995. The State Legislations call for their examination by the concerned Department/ Ministeries of the Government of India and consultations with the State Government, wherever necessary. There has been no delay in the matter.

Increase in the target of freight loading

1624. SHRI JOBON ROY: will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whther it is a fact that the target of freight loading has increased in current financial year as compared with past five years; and

(b) if so, the number of wagons required by Railways to meet the same target in current financial year and what was the number of wagons used by Railways in the year 1985-86 to 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Procurement of 24,000 B.G. wagons (in terms of four wheeler units) including about 5,000 wagons under "Own Your Wagon Scheme", is planned in the current year.

Figures of holding of wagons (in terms of four-wheeler units) on Indian Railways in different years is as under:

Year	Holding of BG (FWU)	Holding of MG (FWU) (May figures of following year
1985-86	4,29,552	95514
1986-87	4,32,019	90721
1987-88	4,34,727	86843
1988-89	4,47,637	83605
1989-90	4,67,109	84873

शाखा डाकघर खोलने हेतु निर्धारित लक्ष्य

1625. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह:**
श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार द्वारा आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान खोले जाने वाले शाखा डाकघरों की संख्या के संबंध में क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है तथा तत्संबंधी राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ख) 30 जून 1995 की तिथि के अनुसार प्राप्त किये गये लक्ष्यों का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम): (क) आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के पहले चार वर्षों के दौरान डाकघर खोलने के लिए डाक सर्किल-वार निर्धारित संलग्न विवरण-I में दिए गए हैं। नीचे देखिए योजना लक्ष्य वार्षिक आधार पर निर्धारित किए जाते हैं। वर्ष 1996-97 के लक्ष्य को अभी अंतिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है।

(ख) 30, जून, 1995 की स्थिति के अनुसार लक्ष्यों का सर्किल-वार ब्यौरा विवरण-'' में दिया गया है।

विवरण-I

आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के पहले चार वर्षों (1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 और 1995-96) के दौरान शाखा डाकघर खोलने के लिए निर्धारित लक्ष्यों का ब्यौरा।

क्र.सं.	सर्किल का नाम	डाकघरों की संख्या
1.	आंध्र प्रदेश	40
2.	असम	61
3.	बिहार	173
4.	दिल्ली	-
5.	गुजरात	54
6.	हरियाणा	24
7.	हिमाचल प्रदेश	49
8.	जम्मू और कश्मीर	10

क्र.सं.	सर्किल का नाम	डाकघरों कीसंख्या
9.	कर्नाटक	32
10.	केरल	34
11.	महाराष्ट्र	154
12.	मध्य प्रदेश	104
13.	उत्तर पूर्व	80
14.	उड़ीसा	83
15.	पंजाब	25
16.	राजस्थान	100
17.	तमिलनाडु	28
18.	उत्तर प्रदेश	194
19.	पश्चिम बंगाल	115
	कुल :	1360

विवरण-II

आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के पहले-तीन वर्षों के दौरान, 30.6.95 की स्थिति के अनुसार, मंजूर किए गए शाखा डाकघर

क्र.सं.	सर्किल का नाम	डाकघरों की संख्या
1.	आन्ध्र प्रदेश	18
2.	असम	53
3.	बिहार	160
4.	दिल्ली	–
5.	गुजरात	45
6.	हरियाणा	26
7.	हिमाचल प्रदेश	105
8.	जम्मू और कश्मीर	28
9.	कर्नाटक	31
10.	केरल	45
11.	महाराष्ट्र	142
12.	मध्य प्रदेश	85
13.	उत्तर पूर्व	75
14.	उड़ीसा	82
15.	पंजाब	18
16.	राजस्थान	92
17.	तमिलनाडु	18
18.	उत्तर प्रदेश	193
19.	पश्चिम बंगाल	90
	कुल :	1306

Demand and Supply of Liqued Hydrocarbon

1626. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that natural gas is likely to play a major role in bridging the gap between demand and supply of liquid hydrocarbon in future;

(b) if so, details of steps taken to exploit the potential provided by the natural gas in the country, and

(c) the role played by the North East region in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Natural gas is currently used mainly for production of fertilisers and power generation where it replaces liquid hydrocarbons and coal. This pattern of utilisation is likely to continue. The production of natural gas in 1994-95 was 53.1 MMSCMD of which 5.6 MMSCMD was produced in the North-East. The production potential in 2001-02 is estimated to reach 90 MMSCMD including 13 MMSCMD in the North-East. The gas produced in the North-East is likely to be consumed locally for which an allocations of around 14 MMSCMD have been made.

Proposal for Widening and Repairing of National Highways in Assam and N.E. States

1627. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Assam and other North Eastern States had submitted proposals to the Central Government for widening and rapairing of National Highways during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the action taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statewise details of proposals for widening and repair (including strengthening of pavement) for National Highways from State